



and a calculation of the cost are to be submitted to the SMA Transportation Administration by 28 September 1949.

c. Course of the projected line, see Annex.

d. Target dates are not yet known.

e. The most important question (the procurement of the materials required for the superstructure) has not been solved. The SMA wants to obtain the materials by dismantling closed or little used feeder lines to the former war industry plants. A list of these lines is to be submitted within three days.

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Comment:

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requested in connection with newspaper reports of August 1949 on the construction ordered by the Soviets of rerouting lines in the BERLIN area. The realization of these plans would enable the Soviets to direct their shipments on the shortest possible route without crossing the Western Sectors of BERLIN. The shortage of materials used for the superstructure makes it doubtful if these projects will be carried out. If they are executed it will be an indication of their great importance to the Soviets.

It is not clear whether these plans, [redacted] have become superfluous because of political developments in the Soviet Zone or whether they represent advanced planning with regard to these events.

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1 Annex: Rerouting Lines in the BERLIN Area.

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